This is very interesting; for this law, alleged by Moore, would seem to be another way of formulating the principle of Holism which we must consider later. Moore adds: * Atoms, molecules, colloids, and *living organisms arise as the result of the operations of this law,* and in the higher regions of complexity it induces organic evolution and all the many thousands of living forms '. This, then, is Moore's theory of the origin of living things, the genesis of living organisms by the pushing to further stages of the process of formation of colloidal aggregates. And the active agent which operates to achieve this first step and all later steps of evolution of living things is this law of complexity,

Now, definitely this will not do. Many men of science allow themselves to talk of the operations of laws. But in their more sober moments they know perfectly well that laws do not operate, are not causes. Even statute laws operate only through active agents who respect and enforce them. Moore's law of complexity is an inductive generalization, and a somewhat questionable one : but, even if it were well founded, an inductive generalization, first formulated by Moore in the year 1912, could hardly have been the cause of all evolution, nor an important causal factor in the primal genesis of living things.

So far Moore has given us a description of the multimolecular colloidal aggregates and a suggestion that the living cell arises by way of this colloidal aggregation. But he has thrown little light upon the specific peculiari-

ties of living things. Consider that two-fold power on which I have hitherto chiefly insisted: the power of living material to select the requisite chemicals from its environment and to build them up into material like itself, itself remaining after the process essentially un-